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Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 18415 241034Z

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

TRSE-00 ACDA-07 /064 W
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P R 240940Z NOV 76
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3230
INFO 13TH AF CLARK AB
CINCPACREPPHIL SUBIC
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 18415

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, RP
SUBJECT: NPA ARMS RAID ON VILLAGES NEAR CLARK AB

1. COMMUNISTS (NPA) FORCES STAGED RAIDS ON FIVE BARRIOS NEAR NORTHEAST PERIMETER OF CLARK AIR BASE DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS AFTERNOON OF NOVEMBER 22. ACCORDING PRELIMINARY INFORMATION FROM CONSTABULARY SOURCES, TWO GROUPS OF 70 AND 50 ARMED MEN LED BY JUANITA RIVERA (COMMANDER JUANIG) AND RODOLFO SALAS (COMMANDER BILOG) RESPECTIVELY SURROUNDED BARRIOS DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS, SEARCHED HOMES OF LOCAL MILITIA (CHDF) MEMBERS, AND REMOVED TOTAL OF 43 FIREARMS (MOSTLY M-1 CARBINES) PLUS AMMUNITION. THERE WERE NO CASUALTIES NOR WERE ANY VILLAGERS MALTREATED. CONSTABULARY SUSPECTS COLLUSION SINCE RAID IN EACH CASE COINCIDED WITH TEMPORARY ABSENCE OF CONSTABULARY ENLISTED MAN WHO NORMALLY SUPERVISES VILLAGE CHDF UNIT. ALL FIVE BARRIOS ARE NEAR TOWN OF DAU ON OUTSKIRTS OF ANGELES CITY, MUNICIPALITY OF MABALACAT, PAMPANGA.

2. ACCORDING GENERALLY ACCURATE STORY IN "BULLETIN TODAY,"
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PAGE 02 MANILA 18415 241034Z

JUANITA RIVERA (COMMANDER JUANIG) IS BROTHER-IN-LAW OF

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NPA TOP LEADER COMMANDER DANTE, WHO WAS CAPTURED
LAST AUGUST 26. ACCORDING "BULLETIN," JUANIG IS NOW
REGARDED AS DANTE'S SUCCESSOR. THE OTHER COMMANDER
INVOLVED, SALAS, IS A FORMER CHEMICAL AND ENGINEERING
PROFESSOR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PHILIPPINES WHO ESCAPED
FROM PC STOCKADE FROM CAMP OLIVAS IN 1973 AND HAS SINCE
COMMANDED NPA UNITS IN TARLAC, PAMPANGA AND NUEVA ECIJA.
STORY SPECULATES THAT RAIDERS MAY EITHER HAVE COME FROM
ZAMBALES MOUNTAINS OR FROM TARLAC.

3. COMMENT: IF THIS SCENARIO IS SUBSTANTIALLY ACCURATE
AS IT APPEARS TO BE, RAID REPRESENTS STUNNING PROOF THAT
DESPITE HIGH-LEVEL OF DEFECTIONS OF LAST AUGUST, NPA IS
ALIVE AND CAPABLE OF VIGOROUS ACTION. INFORMATION AVAILABLE
THUS FAR FROM PC SOURCES APPEARS TO RULE OUT POSSIBILITY
THAT THIS WAS MERELY A STAGE SHOW DESIGNED TO PROVE THE
NECESSITY FOR CONTINUING MARTIAL LAW. APPROPRIATE
AUTHORITIES AT CLARK ARE MONITORING SITUATION
INSOFAR AS IT REFLECTS ON SECURITY OF BASE PERIMETER.
(ACCORDING ONE SOURCE, NPA CADRES INVOLVED IN RAID WERE
HEARD DISCUSSING POSSIBILITY OF ATTEMPTING CAPTURE
WEAPONS FROM PERIMETER GUARDS.). SULLIVAN

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